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MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN
GROUP

MAXIMUM CLONAGE

PART 5 OF 6

THE SPECTACULAR

SPIDER-MAN



THE DEATH OF
Kaine!

SPIN LEE
PRESENTS THE
SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN IN
MAXIMUM
CLONAGE, PART 5

IF DEATH BE MY DESTINY-!!

YIKES!

THE MAN WHO'S BEEN
CALLING HIMSELF BEN
REILLY IS NOT HAVING
A GOOD WEEK!

HE RECENTLY LEARNED
THAT HE'S THE ORIGINAL
PETER PARKER--AND
NOT A CLONE--AS HE
MISTAKENLY BELIEVED
FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

THAT'S THE
GOOD NEWS.
THE ONLY
GOOD NEWS.

SPWAK!


SINCE THEN, THE REAL
CLONE (THE MAN WHO
ERRONEOUSLY THOUGHT
HE WAS PETER) HAS
ABANDONED HIS
PREGNANT WIFE, AND
FORMED AN ALLIANCE
WITH THE JACKAL...

THE ENTIRE POPULATION
OF SPRINGVILLE HAS
BEEN WIPED OUT BY AN
EXPERIMENTAL VIRUS...

AND NOW, AFTER BATTLING
BOTH THE NEW WARRIORS
AND THE DEADLY SPIDERCIDE,
REILLY (AS THE SCARLET
SPIDER) MUST FACE A VAST
ARMY OF SPIDER-CLONES!

*COMPUTER COLOR
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A comic book panel showing a chaotic battle between Spider-Man clones and the villain Venom. In the foreground, a large Venom figure is lunging towards the viewer, his white eyes and sharp fangs prominent. Behind him, several Spider-Man clones are engaged in combat. One clone is being thrown through the air, while others are on the ground or in mid-air. The background shows a city street with buildings and more clones. The scene is filled with action and tension.

AND TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, HIS ONLY ALLY IS HIS FORMER ENEMY--

--THE MYSTERIOUS VIGILANTE KNOWN AS Kaine!

COOL IT, Kaine! THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO VICIOUS!

THESE SPIDER-CLONES ARE VICTIMS LIKE US! THEY'RE BEING MANIPULATED BY THE JACKAL!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE IF THEY LIVE OR DIE? THEY'RE ONLY CLONES!

LOSE THE ATTITUDE, MISTER! I'VE GOT NO USE FOR IT! A CLONE HAS THE SAME RIGHT TO LIFE AS YOU OR I!

JUST LOOK WHAT OUR MUTUAL FRIEND PETER PARKER HAS MANAGED TO ACCOMPLISH!

WHETHER THEY'RE INNOCENT Pawns OR ENTHUSIASTIC CONVERTS, THEY'RE STILL TRYING TO KILL US!

PARKER?! I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE THE REAL PARKER!

TWUDD

DON'T GET TECHNICAL ON ME, PRETTY BOY! YOU SHOULD KNOW WHO I MEAN!

YOU USED TO LOOK UP TO HIM BEFORE HE SIGNED ON WITH THE JACKAL!

SO DID I FOR THAT MATTER!

WHERE IS PARKER? WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?!

I once read that the human mind is like a rubber band...

It can only be stretched so far before it snaps!

He was struggling with Ben Reilly.

When I tried to separate them, Peter backhanded me... and sent me crashing into a wall.

It was an instinctive reaction! I don't think he even realized who was standing behind him when he struck!

I'll never forget the look of horror on his face... when he saw it was me!

But, even though I understand his reasons for running off, I'm not going to quietly sit on the sidelines and wait for him to return.

I've gathered all of these little gizmos he uses to track criminals across the city, and added my special emergency beacon...

By activating them all at once, I'll set off a blast he can't ignore...

My poor husband!

I don't blame him for snapping after all that's happened in the past few months...

After being infected with a deadly virus, he learned I was pregnant...

...Dunt May died...

He was arrested for murder...

...and then, he discovered that he was a clone!

That's when he lashed out at the world... and at me.

Please come back, Peter!
Do it for me...

...for our baby...

...But most of all, for yourself!



ARGGH!

THE TIMING COULDN'T HAVE BEEN WORSE!

I'M TWENTY STORIES ABOVE THE GROUND, HURTLING TOWARD THE NEXT WEB-LINE, WHEN MY BRAIN SUDDENLY KALEIDOSCOPIES IN AGONY!

THE WOMAN IN MY ARMS IMMEDIATELY PANICS, TIGHTENING HER ARMS AROUND MY NECK IN A VISER-LIKE GRIP!

HER CURRENT NAME IS GWEN MITES! SHE'S A CLONE LIKE ME!

THE FIRST GWEN STACY CLONE!

THE JACKAL SENT ME TO RETRIEVE HER... BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF MY PROBLEMS NOW!

INSTINCTIVELY, I TRY TO SLOW MY DESCENT--

--BY SPREADING MY LIMBS LIKE A SKY-DIVER AS I ROLL FORWARD!

LIKE A STONE SKIPPING OVER A PLACID LAKE, I BOUNCE ALONG THE EDGE OF THE BUILDING--

--USING MY WALL-STICKING ABILITY TO IMPEDE MY SPEED--

--UNTIL I COME TO A FINAL, JARRING STOP!

WHA--WHAT HAPPENED?!

SOMETHING'S WRONG AT HOME! MY WIFE MUST BE TRYING TO REACH ME!

I CAN SENSE HER PERSONAL SIGNAL MIXED WITH ABOUT A DOZEN OTHER SPIDER-TRACERS!

YOU... YOU'RE MARRIED?!

YEAH, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN FACE HER AFTER THE WAY I'VE ACTED!

YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE, BUSTER! IF YOUR WOMAN NEEDS YOU...

GO!

GO!

GWEN IS RIGHT, OF COURSE!

IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT I MARRIED MARY JANE UNDER FALSE PRETENSES.

I'D NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF... IF THERE'S EVEN A POSSIBILITY... SHE MIGHT COME TO KARM... BECAUSE I FAILED TO ACT!

OOOOOO,
THIS IS SOOOOOO
EXASPERATING!

IF OUR
GUEST IS ANNOY-
ING YOU, JACKAL...
I COULD EASILY
DESTROY HIM!

DUH! WHY DIDN'T I
THINK OF THAT, SPIDERCIDE?

COULD IT BE THAT I STILL
NEED TO DETERMINE *HOW*
HE MANAGED TO REMAIN
ALIVE... AFTER BEING EXPOSED
TO MY RECENTLY IMPROVED
GARRION VIRUS?

YOU'RE LOOKING AT
THE SOLE SURVIVOR
OF OUR LITTLE JAUNT
TO SPRINGVILLE,
PENNSYLVANIA!*

CUE THE OLD JOHN WILLIAMS
MOVIE THEME, AND BREAK OUT
A FLOWING RED CAPE!

INSTEAD OF MERELY
KILLING HIM, THE *VIRUS*
SEEMS TO HAVE GIVEN THIS
BOY THE ABILITY TO
INSTINCTIVELY RECODE
HIS *DNA* IN RESPONSE
TO ENVIRONMENTAL
CONDITIONS!

*SEE SPIDER-MAN:
MAXIMUM CLONAGE:
ALPHA FOR ALL THE
DETAILS. --ERIC

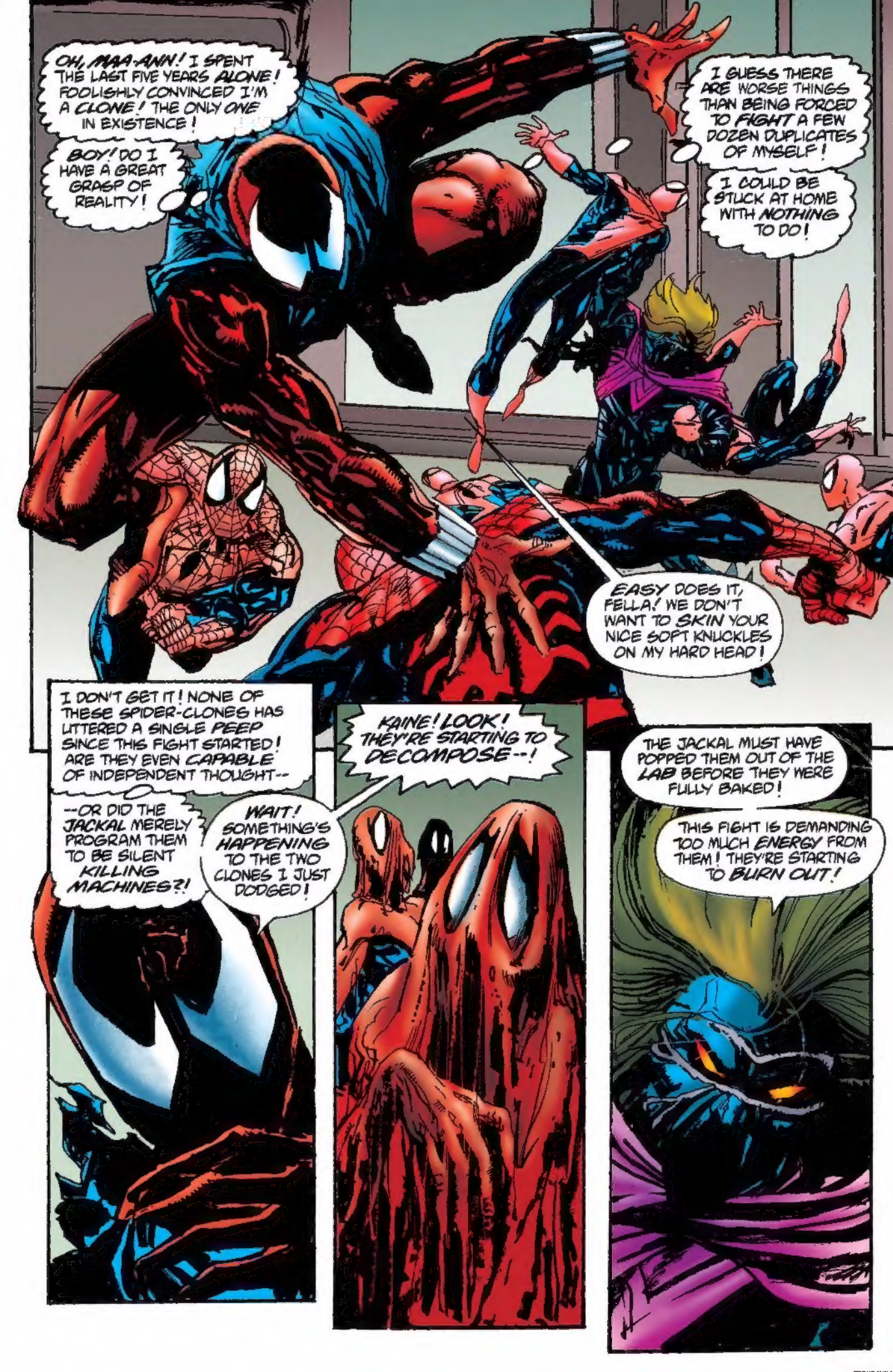
HIS GENETIC STRUCTURE
IS AS TWISTED AND
CIRCUMVOLVED... AS
A VERITABLE *HELIX*!

WHY ARE YOU
SO TROUBLED
BY A SINGLE
ANOMALY?

ONE MAN IN A TOWN THE SIZE OF
SPRINGVILLE COULD CONCEIV-
ABLY TRANSLATE TO *HUNDREDS*
OF THOUSANDS ACROSS THE
NATION! I HAVE *ZERO* TOLER-
ANCE FOR FAILURE!

I'M A *SUPER-VILLAIN*
INTENT ON ERADICATING
MANKIND...

NOT SOME SNIVELING
CORPORATE EXECUTIVE
WHO'S TRYING TO JUSTIFY
A BAD QUARTER!

A large comic book panel showing a chaotic battle between multiple Spider-Man clones. One clone is in the air, another is on the ground, and a third is being thrown. A character with yellow hair and a purple sash is also present. The scene is filled with action and dialogue.

OH, MAA-ANN! I SPENT
THE LAST FIVE YEARS ALONE!
FOOLISHLY CONVINCED I'M
A CLONE! THE ONLY ONE
IN EXISTENCE!

BOY! DO I
HAVE A GREAT
GRASP OF
REALITY!

I GUESS THERE
ARE WORSE THINGS
THAN BEING FORCED
TO FIGHT A FEW
DOZEN DUPLICATES
OF MYSELF!

I COULD BE
STUCK AT HOME
WITH NOTHING
TO DO!

EASY DOES IT,
FELLA! WE DON'T
WANT TO SKIN YOUR
NICE SOFT KNUCKLES
ON MY HARD HEAD!

I DON'T GET IT! NONE OF
THESE SPIDER-CLONES HAS
LITTERED A SINGLE PEEP
SINCE THIS FIGHT STARTED!
ARE THEY EVEN CAPABLE
OF INDEPENDENT THOUGHT--

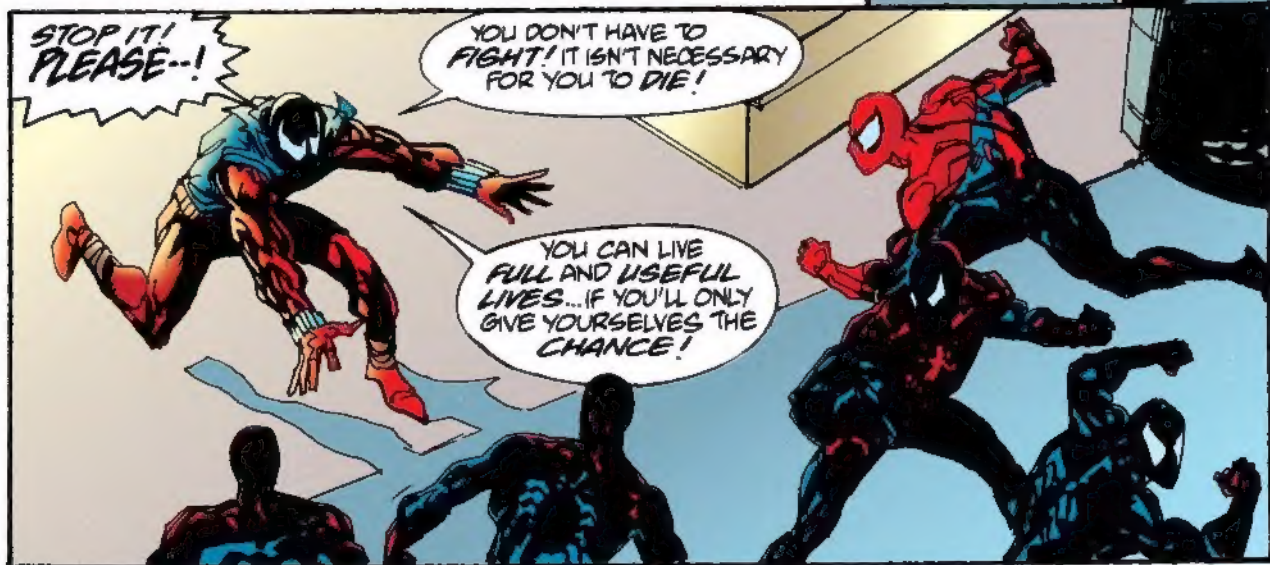
--OR DID THE
JACKAL MERELY
PROGRAM THEM
TO BE SILENT
KILLING
MACHINES?!

WAIT!
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING
TO THE TWO
CLONES I JUST
DODGED!

KAINE! LOOK!
THEY'RE STARTING TO
DECOMPOSE--!

THE JACKAL MUST HAVE
POPPED THEM OUT OF THE
LAB BEFORE THEY WERE
FULLY BAKED!

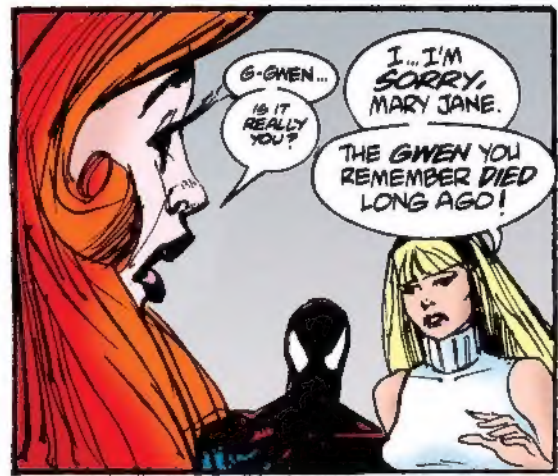
THIS FIGHT IS DEMANDING
TOO MUCH ENERGY FROM
THEM! THEY'RE STARTING
TO BURN OUT!





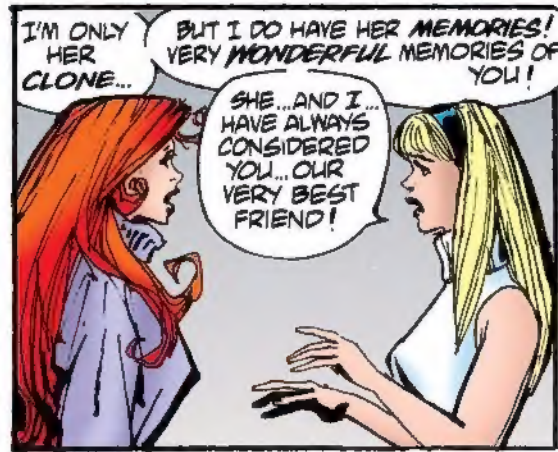
I gave it my best shot! I just pray Peter takes this chance, and--Wait! Here he comes, but he's with some woman!

OH, GOD--!



G-GWEN...
IS IT REALLY YOU?

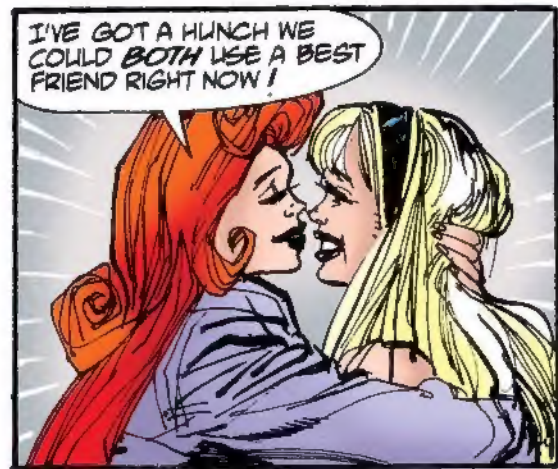
I... I'M SORRY, MARY JANE.
THE GWEN YOU REMEMBER DIED LONG AGO!



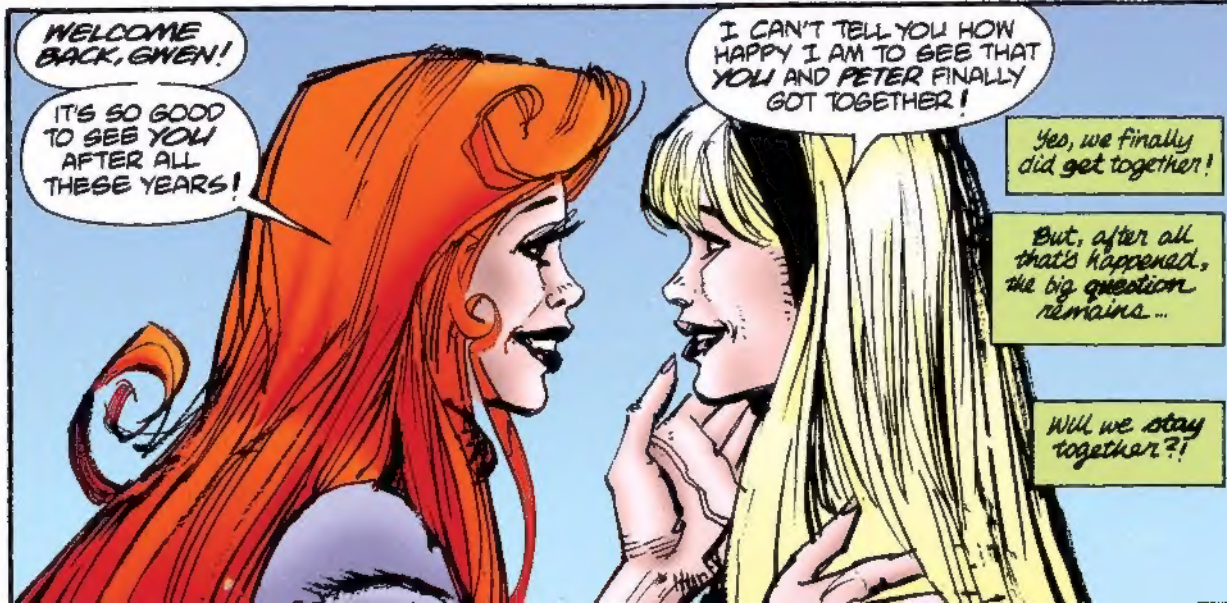
I'M ONLY HER CLONE...

BUT I DO HAVE HER MEMORIES! VERY WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF YOU!

SHE... AND I... HAVE ALWAYS CONSIDERED YOU... OUR VERY BEST FRIEND!



I'VE GOT A HUNCH WE COULD BOTH USE A BEST FRIEND RIGHT NOW!



WELCOME BACK, GWEN!

IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW HAPPY I AM TO SEE THAT YOU AND PETER FINALLY GOT TOGETHER!

Yes, we finally did get together!

But, after all that's happened, the big question remains...

Will we stay together?!



YOU'RE
KILLING YOUR-
SELVES FOR NO
REASON!

TAKE
CHARGE
OF YOUR
LIVES!

DON'T LET
THE JACKAL
EXPLOIT YOU!



YOU'RE ONLY WASTING
YOUR BREATH, REILLY...
AS WELL AS YOUR
COMPASSION!

MERE
WORDS
WILL NOT
STOP
THESE
THINGS--



RWA-TWOOM

--BUT
I WILL!



CA-RASH

OH DRAT! I
REALLY HATE WHEN
COMPANY DROPS IN
UNEXPECTEDLY--

--ESPECIALLY WHEN
I HAVE A WORLD TO
DEPOPULATE!



OH, SPIDERCIDE!
WE HAVE COMPANY!

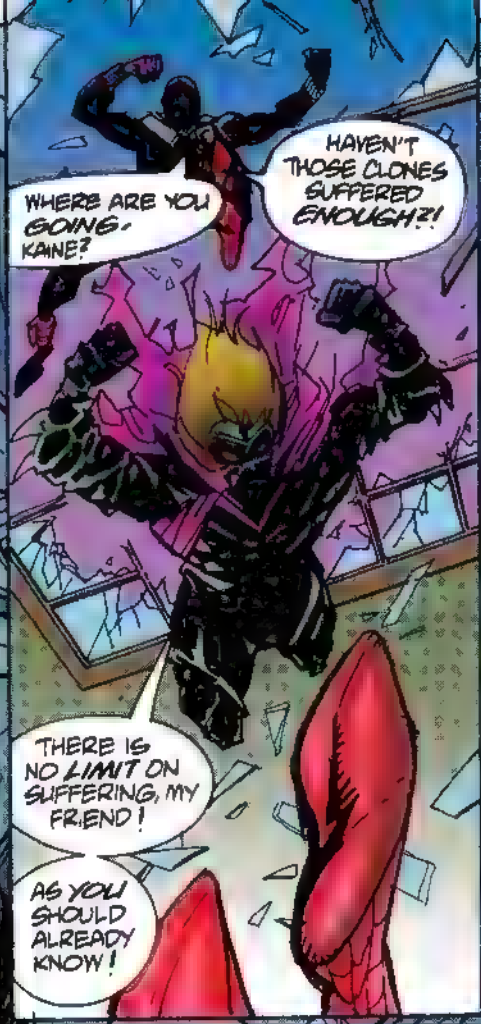
SPIDERCIDE--?!

WHERE IS THAT BOY?

PERHAPS, HE'S OFF DOING SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE...

LIKE COMING UP WITH A DECENT NAME! I CAN'T BELIEVE HE THOUGHT I WAS SERIOUS WHEN I STARTED CALLING HIM SPIDERCIDE!

THAT'S ALMOST AS LAKE AS THE SCARLET SPIDER!

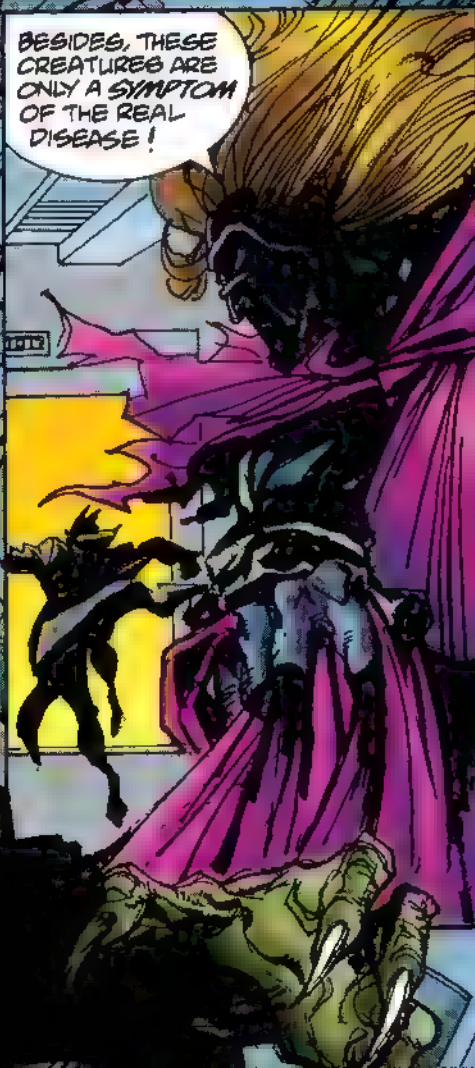


WHERE ARE YOU GOING, KANE?

HAVEN'T THOSE CLONES SUFFERED ENOUGH?!

THERE IS NO LIMIT ON SUFFERING, MY FRIEND!

AS YOU SHOULD ALREADY KNOW!



BESIDES, THESE CREATURES ARE ONLY A SYMPTOM OF THE REAL DISEASE!



THAT'S HIM! THAT'S THE SPIDER-GUY WE RAN ACROSS IN SPRINGVILLE!

THE DAILY BUGLE SAYS HE'S THE SCARLET SPIDER!

SCARLET SPIDER?! DOESN'T THIS JOKER REALIZE THAT WE ALREADY HAVE A SPIDER-MAN IN THIS TOWN?

LIKE WE HAVE TWO TURBOS?

YOU'RE CRUISING, SPEEDBALL!

JUST KIDDING, DOLL! YOU'RE THE PRIMARY TURBO AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED!

CHILL THE JOKES, PEOPLE! THIS IS NO TIME FOR HUMOR!

OVER TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE MURDERED IN SPRINGVILLE--AND THAT MAY BE ONLY THE BEGINNING!

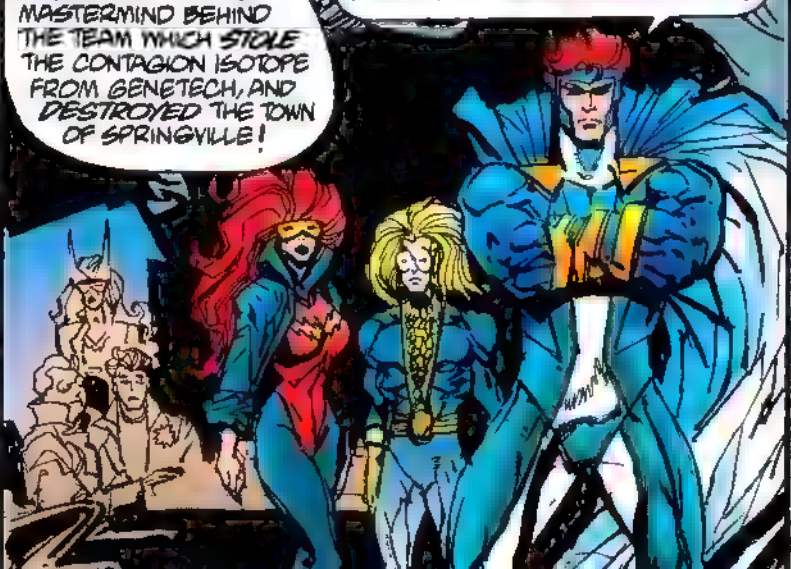
I JUST RECEIVED A CALL FROM WALTER ROSEN AT GENETECH!

THE KID WE CAPTURED THE ONE WHO COULD ADAPT TO SUDDEN CHANGES IN THE ENVIRONMENT... HE NEVER MADE IT TO PROJECT PEGASUS!

SOMEONE HIJACKED HIM!

I BELIEVE THAT SAME SOMEONE IS THE MASTERMIND BEHIND THE TEAM WHICH STOLE THE CONTAGION ISOTOPE FROM GENETECH, AND DESTROYED THE TOWN OF SPRINGVILLE!

FINDING HIM IS NOW THE TOP PRIORITY OF THE NEW WARRIORS!



WELL, WELL,
WHAT HAVE
WE HERE?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE QUIETLY
SLIPPED AWAY FOR A FEW QUICK
ROUNDS OF LEISURE SUIT LARRY
WHILE KATIE AND REILLY ARE
RE-ARRANGING MY LABORATORY--

--TO SAY
NOTHING OF MY
BRIDGEWORK!

HARDLY!

IF YOU MUST KNOW, I'VE BEEN
ORGANIZING AND UPDATING YOUR
NOTES ON THE RECENTLY
IMPROVED CARRION VIRUS--

--AS WELL AS YOUR FILES ON
THIS HELIX CHARACTER!

SCRIER--I'M
SURE YOU REMEMBER
HIM--ASKED ME TO
MODERN A COPY
OF THIS DATA!

SCRIER?!
YOU'RE BETRAYING
ME TO SCRIER?

AFTER ALL I'VE
DONE FOR YOU? I
TREATED YOU LIKE A
SON! I GAVE YOU
LOVE... RESPECT...
AND A REALLY COOL
COSTUME!

OKAY, MAYBE I DID
STICK YOU WITH A DORKY
NAME, BUT THAT'S NO
REASON TO TURN AGAINST
ME!

SNAP!

IT'S TIMES
LIKE THESE
I'M SOOO
GLAD YOU CLONES
WERE DESIGNED
TO DESTROY
ON COMMAND!

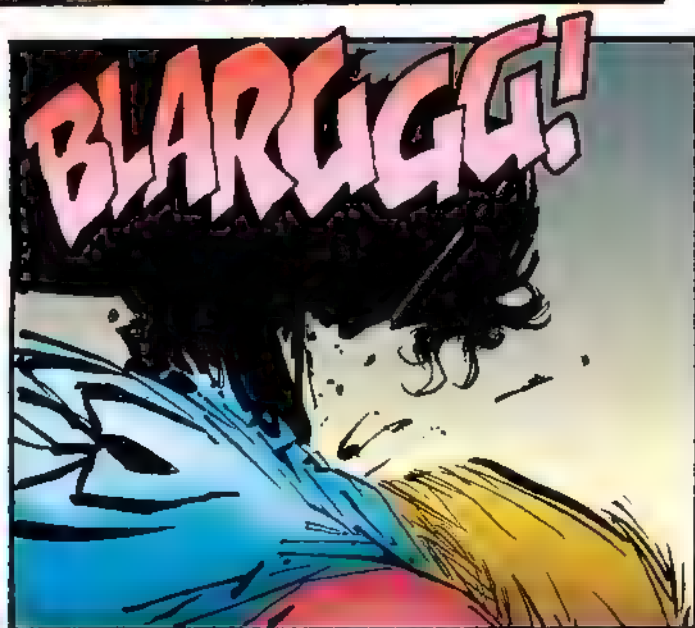
OH, THE PAIN!

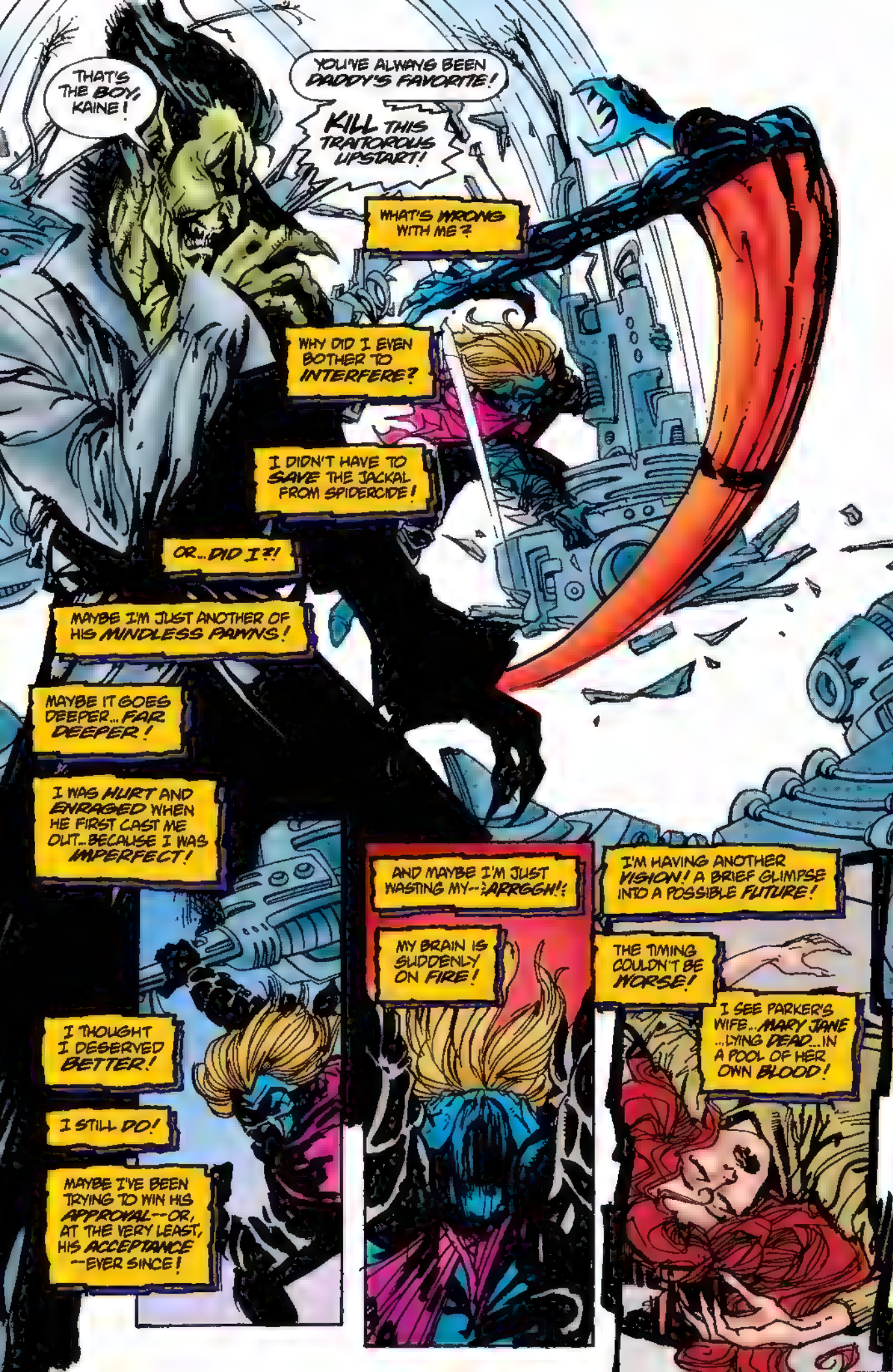
THE
AGONY!

WHOOPS! SILLY ME!
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT
I FORGOT TO MENTION
THAT--









THAT'S
THE BOY,
KAINE!

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN
DADDY'S FAVORITE!

KILL THIS
TRAITOROUS
UPSTART!

WHAT'S WRONG
WITH ME?

WHY DID I EVEN
BOTHER TO
INTERFERE?

I DIDN'T HAVE TO
SAVE THE JACKAL
FROM SPIDERCIDE!

OR...DID I?!

MAYBE I'M JUST ANOTHER OF
HIS MINDLESS Pawns!

MAYBE IT GOES
DEEPER... FAR
DEEPER!

I WAS HURT AND
ENRAGED WHEN
HE FIRST CAST ME
OUT... BECAUSE I WAS
IMPERFECT!

AND MAYBE I'M JUST
WASTING MY--**ARRGGH!**

MY BRAIN IS
SUDDENLY
ON FIRE!

I'M HAVING ANOTHER
VISION! A BRIEF GLIMPSE
INTO A POSSIBLE FUTURE!

THE TIMING
COULDN'T BE
WORSE!

I THOUGHT
I DESERVED
BETTER!

I STILL DO!

MAYBE I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO WIN HIS
APPROVAL--OR,
AT THE VERY LEAST,
HIS ACCEPTANCE
--EVER SINCE!

I SEE PARKER'S
WIFE... MARY JANE
...LYING DEAD... IN
A POOL OF HER
OWN BLOOD!



WAIT! I SEE SOME-
THING MORE...

HER KILLER
STANDS IN THE
SHADOWS!

HE'S ADVANCING
TOWARD HER!

HE'S STEPPING
OUT OF THE
DARKNESS!

HIS FEATURES ARE
SLOWLY BEGINNING
TO TAKE SHAPE!

NO!

OH, GOD!

NOT HIM!

WHY DID IT HAVE
TO BE HIM?!

AT LAST! I
CAN FINALLY
SEE HIS
FACE, AND...


EXXCUUSSE
MEEE!

I BELIEVE
WE'RE IN THE
MIDDLE OF
A FIGHT
HERE!

WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?

DIDN'T ANYONE EVER TELL YOU IT'S
THE HEIGHT OF RUDENESS
TO BLANK OUT ON AN ADVERSARY--





ESPECIALLY
ONE AS
BLOOD-
THIRSTY
AS ME!

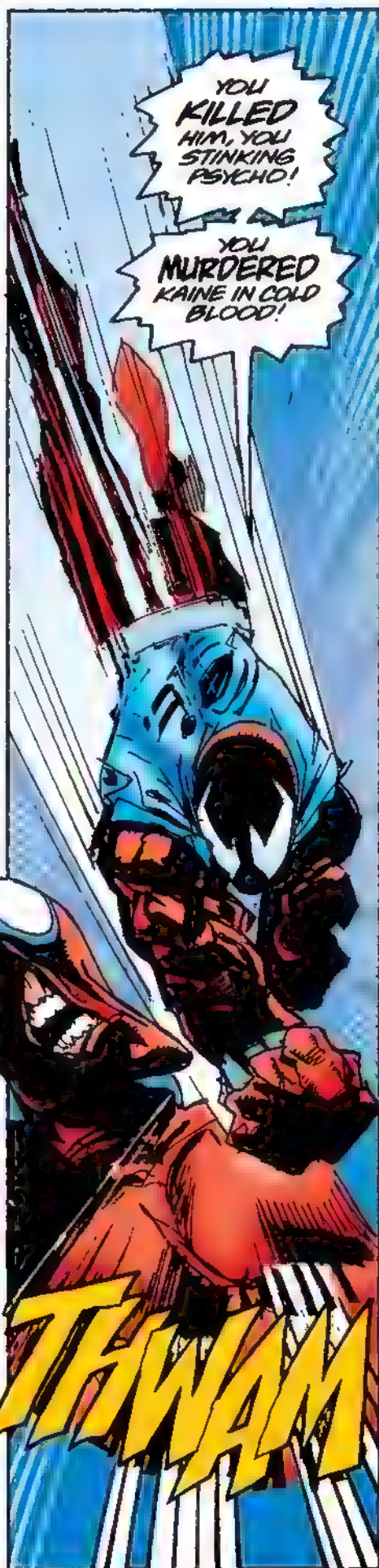
KWAFFWUDD



MAY TO
GO, KAINE!

YOU REALLY KNOW
HOW TO SHOW A GUY
A GOOD TIME!

LET'S
DO IT
AGAIN!



YOU
KILLED
HIM, YOU
STINKING
PSYCHO!

YOU
MURDERED
KAINE IN COLD
BLOOD!

THWAM



DON'T FEEL
SO BAD, LITTLE
SPIDER-GUY...

THAT'S
NOTHING
COMPARED TO
WHAT I'VE
PLANNED FOR
YOU!

KWASH!

K-KAINE?!



EASY, SON...
DADDY'S HERE!

WHY DID YOU
DO IT, KAINE?
AFTER THE WAY
I'VE TREATED
YOU... WHY...
WHY SACRIFICE
YOURSELF FOR
ME?!



YOU

SAVE

ME

LIFE



THAT'S
IT?!



PARA-
THETIC!


YOU HIDEOUS
WASTE OF CELLULAR
MATERIAL--

YOU WERE
NEVER ANYTHING
MORE TO ME THAN A
BEAKER OF BAD
CHEMICALS!



HOWEVER,
EVEN BAD
CHEMICALS...

CAN
OCCASIONALLY
BE PUT TO
GOOD USE!



I NEVER
LIKED
KATNE!

I HATED
THE WAY HE
HOUNDED AND
TORMENTED ME
OVER THE
YEARS!

BUT EVEN
HE DESERVED
BETTER!

EVERYONE DESERVES
BETTER... BUT REAL LIFE HAS A
NASTY HABIT OF SHAFING US
ALL!



MAYBE SO... BUT THE
KILLING ENDS HERE!

IT ENDS NOW!



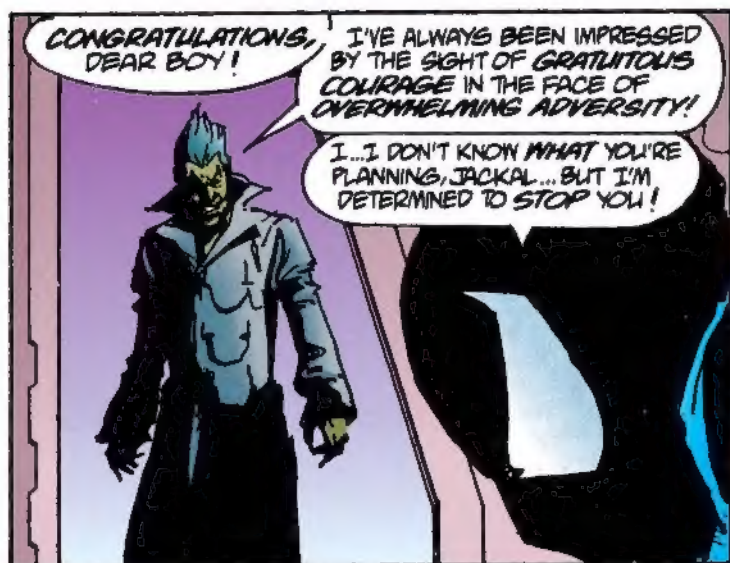
OMIGOSH! I NEVER
INTENDED TO HIT HIM SO HARD!

I ACCIDENTALLY
SENT HIM CRASHING
INTO SOME KIND OF
ELECTRICAL
APPARATUS!

WHAT HAVE I DONE?
I DOUBT EVEN SPIDERCIDE
COULD SURVIVE A
JOLT LIKE THAT!



GRRAAALL--?!





--AND I'M BEING FORCED TO MOVE UP THE DESTRUCTION OF THE HUMAN RACE ON MY TIMETABLE!

NO! I WON'T LET YOU--EUGENE!

M-MY ANKLE CAN'T SUPPORT ME!

POOR BABY!
YOU'RE IN A VERY
VULNERABLE
POSITION!

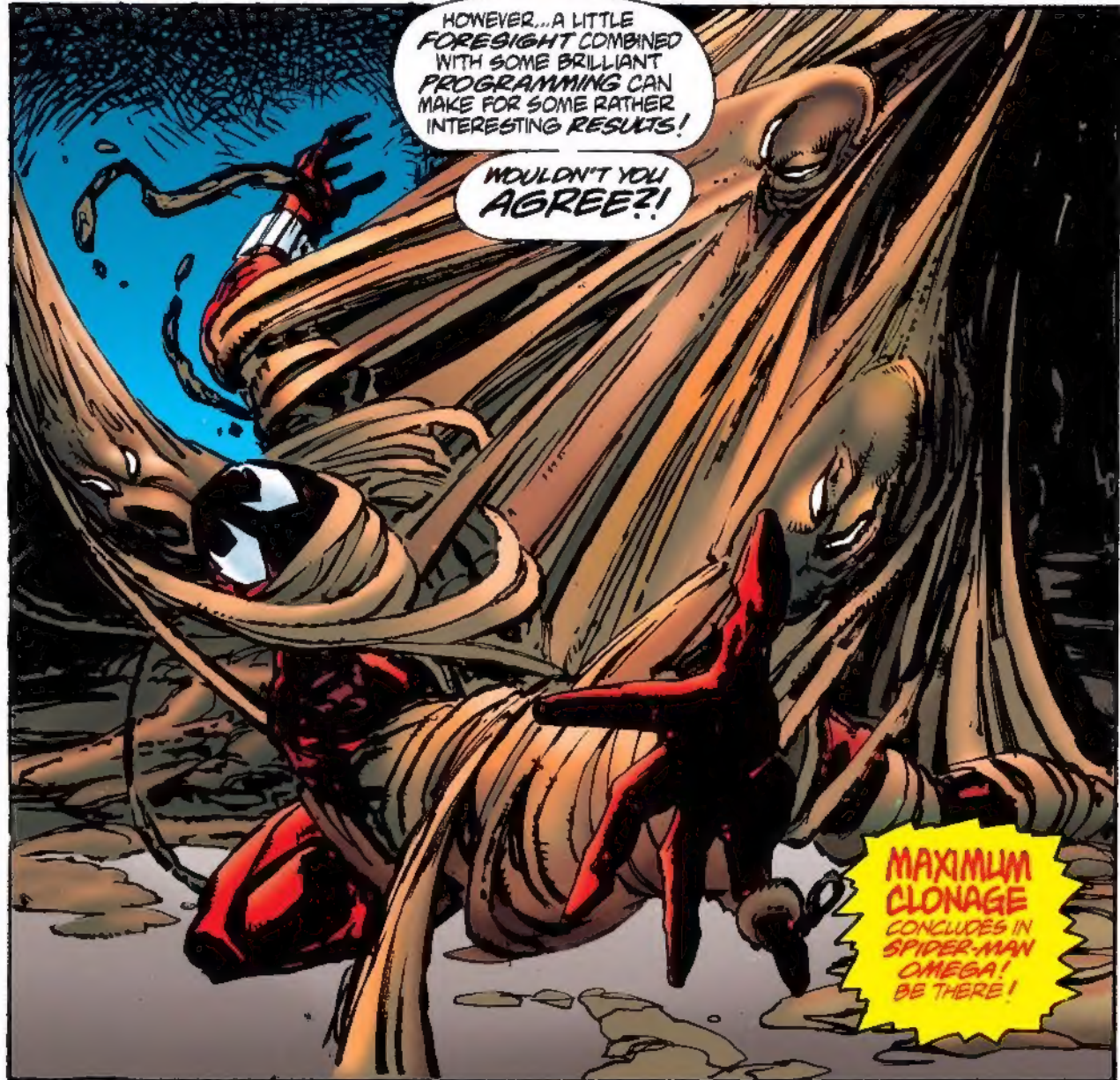
I REALLY
WOULD HATE
TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE...



YEAH...RIGHT!

I HOPE YOU NOTICED
THAT LARGE PILE OF GOD
IN THE CORNER! THE
SAD REMAINS OF SOME
DEGENERATED
CLONES!

SNAP



HOWEVER...A LITTLE
FORESIGHT COMBINED
WITH SOME BRILLIANT
PROGRAMMING CAN
MAKE FOR SOME RATHER
INTERESTING RESULTS!

WOULDN'T YOU
AGREE?!

**MAXIMUM
CLONAGE
CONCLUDES IN
SPIDER-MAN
OMEGA!
BE THERE!**